

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Reorganization of Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, located at Prague II, Palackeho nam. 4, has been reorganized according to a decree dated 13 May 1949, as follows:

a. Group A: Labor.

- 1) Department I - Organization and protection of labor.
This department is to take over the duties of the former departments A-I and A-IV and the administrative work of department A-II.

Head of Department: Jadr. Karel Stastny
Deputy: Ing. Karel Manena

- 2) Department II- Wages and salaries
This department is to take over the former department A-III.

Head of Department: No change.

b. Group B: Social Economy.

- 1) Department III - Planning.
This department is to take over the agenda of the planning section of the former department P-I and the agenda of department C-I, except legislation.

Head of Department: No appointment has been made; temporary charge of the department is to be taken by the chief of Group B, Deputy Minister Jadr. Bedrich Levcik.

- 2) Department IV - General
This department is to take over the general and budgeting sections of the former department P-I, with the exception of the agenda of section P-I/9 and the agenda of the Miners' Funds.

Head of Department: Jadr. Jiri Fischer.

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Next Review Date

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c. Group C: Social Welfare.

- 1) Department V: National Insurance and Veterans' Indemnities.
This department is to take over the former departments B-I and C-IV.

Head of Department: Judr. Josef Schrutze.

- 2) Department VI: General Social Welfare (youth welfare, recreation, and support of destitute persons).
This department is to take over the agenda of the former departments C-II and C-III (except legislation) and the agenda of the Miners' funds, from the former department P-I.

Head of Department: Judr. Edita Cerenska;
Deputy Head : Judr. Zdenka Repkova.

- 3) Department VII - Legislation.
This department will handle its own and other legislation, compilation and control of legislative planning, short term planning of proposals for the Government and other constitutional authorities, and evidence and control of Government decrees and resolutions taken by the National Assembly.

Head of Department: Judr. Jiri Kojecky.
An independent section of this department, called Codes of Labor, is headed by Judr. Josef Kotka.

- 4) Department VIIa - Liquidation of Repatriation.
This department is to take over the agenda of the former department A-V (except legislation).

Head of Department: No change.

d. Group D: Cadre Matters.

Department VIII - Cadre Department (political supervision and enlightenment).
This department is to take over the former sections P-II/Os. and P-II/Org. of the former division P-I/9, and the division, and evidence division, including supervision of the administrative and the accounts office of the Ministry.

Head of Department: Judr. Milos Novy.

2. Deputy heads of departments will be appointed as needed. All officials in charge of legislative work in individual departments will be transferred to the new Legislation Department VII. Drafts for the internal organization of each department, and nominal rolls of employees by departmental sections, are to be submitted to the Minister not later than 23 May 1949.
3. On 11 April 1949, the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare issued a circular letter which is addressed to all regional and district national committees and which refers to the Ministry's decree of 3 March 1949 establishing long-term workers' brigades composed of employees for state administration, distributing agencies, banks, insurance companies, and trades, for the purpose of eliminating bottlenecks in the 1949 production program. The circular letter criticizes some of the methods used by subordinate authorities in carrying out these instructions. The owners of private enterprises are exempt from these labor brigades but may voluntarily offer their services. The deadline for drafting workers is extended to 15 May 1949.
4. Department A-III/2 of the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare has issued a report, dated 20 April 1949, regarding controlled wages and salaries in Czechoslovakia. This report contains data on the revisions carried out by individual firms, and it is evident from it that in spite of the wage scale set by the government, "black" wages are still being paid throughout Czechoslovakia. The Ministry complains that the authorities at the Jachymov uranium mines have not been permitted to control the wages of workers employed in the mines, and according to unofficial reports some of the workers are earning as much as 15,000 to 32,000 Kcs. per month. This is proving detrimental to the morale of employees of other industries in that region, since they feel that they

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are being treated unfairly.

5. Complaints are being made by Poles who work as servants, farm hands, and grooms on state farms that their wages are not sufficient to cover even basic living expenses. This is confirmation that the long-proclaimed plan to introduce cheap Polish labor into Czechoslovakia in order to alleviate the shortage of agricultural workers has been carried out.

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